In addition, the grant could provide up to \$ 2.8 million to the Industrial Development Fund for infrastructure improvements in economically distressed counties. When a Job Development Investment Grant is awarded to one of the state's most economically prosperous counties such as Guilford, it results in 25 percent of the grant award being allocated to the Industrial Development Fund to encourage economic development in less prosperous areas.

JDIGs are awarded only to new and expanding businesses and industrial projects the benefits of which exceed the costs to the state and which would not be undertaken in North Carolina without the grant. Since the first grant was awarded in 2003, the program has been responsible for creating more than 28,000 jobs and \$4 billion in investment in North Carolina.

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